

BOOK REVIEWS

Tree Books

OWEN JOHNSON (text) and DAVID MORE (illustrations). 2004. **Collins Tree Guide**. (ISBN 0-00-71963-4, hbk.). HarperCollins Publishers, Ltd., 77-85 Fulham Palace Road, London W6 8JB, UK. (Orders: HarperCollins UK, Trafalgar Square, No. Pomfret, Vermont 05053, U.S.A.; www.trafalgarsquarebooks.com). \$65.00, 464 pp., 8 1/2" × 12 1/2".

For those interested in cultivated trees in the U.S.A., this is a prime reference. In fact, as far as I know from the BRIT library, this is among the best, even though the book is aimed primarily at a different continent. Up front is a list of "the 63 species and microspecies that seem most likely to have got [to Britain and northern Europe] without human agency," but the book covers nearly 1600 taxa of "trees in the countryside, parks, and gardens of Britain and of non-Mediterranean Europe"—"those trees which, however rarely, may be found in the general run of gardens." Realistic color paintings show growth habits, bark, fruits, and close-ups of branches and leaves. Distinctive hybrids and cultivars abound. For example, illustrations are provided for 18 distinctively shaped cultivars of Lawson Cypress (*Chamaecyparis lawsoniana*)—"a uniform tree in the wild, but after its arrival in Europe it immediately began to throw more 'sports' than any other species."

In a review (Sida 19642, 2001) of the "field guide-sized" (but thick) *A photographic guide to the Trees of Britain and Europe* (Keith Rushforth 1999, also published by HarperCollins), with color photos of many taxa and small-print descriptions and commentaries, I found it extremely useful for North American identifications. The Johnson and More volume, with larger format, less technical descriptions, narrower geographic scope, and greater emphasis on cultivars, is an exceptionally good complement to the Rushforth book.—Guy Nesom, Botanical Research Institute of Texas, Fort Worth, TX, 76102-4060, U.S.A.

FRED WAMPLER (text) and MARYROSE WAMPLER (paintings). 2001. **Trees of Indiana**. (ISBN 0-253-32885-3, hbk.). Indiana University Press, 601 North Morton Street, Bloomington, IN 47404-3797, U.S.A. (Orders: 800-842-6796, 812-855-7931 fax; iuporder@indiana.edu, www.indiana.edu/~iupress). \$49.95, 152 pp., 72 watercolor paintings, 11 1/4" × 13 1/4".

A showcase of watercolor paintings of Indiana trees by Maryrose Wampler, in large ('collec table') format—11 1/4 _ 13 1/4 inches—with brilliant greens, reds, oranges, and yellows. For each of the 72 species, a full tree is shown along with details of stems, leaves, flowers, and fruits.

"First and foremost, this is an art book." "While care has been taken to be as scientifically accurate as possible, we are not botanists, but generalists interested in trees. Our selection policy was somewhat subjective. We have covered most common trees and also others that 'lit the light,' ... including at least one representative of each genus that grows naturally in the state, commonly reaches a height of 20 feet or more, and has a single trunk."

Commentaries were researched "from secondary sources in order to give Hoosiers an appropriate introduction and background."—Guy Nesom, Botanical Research Institute of Texas, Fort Worth, TX, 76102-4060, U.S.A.